

PHISHING TELEPHONE CALL - The Jury Duty Scam!

This scam has been verified and reported by the FBI.

Most of us take those summonses for jury duty seriously, but enough people skip out on their civic duty, that a new and ominous kind of fraud has surfaced.

The Scam

A caller claims to be a jury coordinator telling you a warrant has been issued for your arrest because you failed to appear for jury duty. If you protest that you never received a summons for jury duty, the scammer asks you for your Social Security number and date of birth so he or she can verify the information and cancel the arrest warrant. Give out any of this information and bingo your identity was just stolen.

The fraud has been reported so far in 11 states, including Oklahoma, Illinois, and Colorado. This (swindle) is particularly insidious because they use intimidation over the phone to try to bully people into giving information by pretending they are with the court system. The FBI and the federal court system have issued nationwide alerts on their web sites, warning consumers about the fraud.

If you receive such a telephone do not provide the information they ask for, instead ask them for the name of the court from which the summons for jury duty was issued. If they provide you with the name of the court, hang up and then call the court to report the scam and verify they did not issue you a summons for jury duty.

It is always a good practice to never give personal information to anyone on an unsolicited telephone call.

ECONOMIC STIMULUS PAYMENT SCAM ALERT

MANY Scam artists are scheming new ways to get your economic stimulus payment from you...by any means necessary. Be on the look out for these schemes or anything that seems unusual.

- You don't have to pay a fee to get your stimulus payment or to receive your payment faster. There are individuals who claim they can speed up your payment—for a fee. Some will even ask you to sign away your benefit to them. This is a scam. No one can speed up your payment.
- If someone claiming to be from the IRS calls or emails you about the payments and asks you for a Social Security, bank account or credit card number, it is a scam. The scammers are trying to get your personal and financial information so they can empty your bank account, run up charges on your credit card or steal your identity.
- Do not give out personal information if you are contacted by phone or e-mail.
- Please keep in mind that only the IRS can send you an official letter regarding your tax situation. The IRS will **NEVER** do any of the following:
 - **NEVER** call you and ask for Social Security Number or bank account information
 - **NEVER** e-mail you and ask for Social Security Number or bank account information

- **NEVER** send a letter that tells you to respond by phone
- **NEVER** send a letter that tells you to respond via e-mail
- **NEVER** come to your home

To report IRS scams, contact the IRS at 1-800-829-1040. If you receive an unsolicited e-mail communication claiming to be from the IRS, please forward this message to: phishing@irs.gov using the instructions provided below.